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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q92802

Eiichi KITAZONO, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/565,019

Group Art Unit: 1711

Confirmation No.: 5222

Examiner: Mesh, Gennadiy

Filed: January 19, 2006

For: TEMPERATURE-RESPONSIVE HYDROGEL

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT **UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations: The submission of

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Application No.: 10/565,019

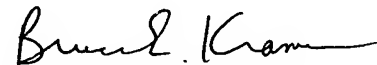
Attorney Docket No. Q92802

English language abstracts for JP-A-10-513386, JP-A-7-278203, and WO 03/028781 A1 constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-A-10-513386, JP-A-7-278203, and WO 03/028781 A1. Also, JP-A-10-513386 corresponds to U.S. Patent 6,080,194. In addition, the discussion in the English translation of the International Preliminary Report on Patentability submitted herewith constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-A-7-278203, as does the citation in the International Search Report submitted on January 19, 2006.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Bruce E. Kramer
Registration No. 33,725

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

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Date: April 5, 2007



Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT***(use as many sheets as necessary)**Complete if Known*

Sheet	1	of	2	Application Number	10/565,019
				Confirmation Number	5222
				Filing Date	January 19, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Eiichi KITAZONO
				Art Unit	1711
				Examiner Name	Mesh, Gennadiy
				Attorney Docket Number	Q92802

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US 5,939,323		08-17-1999	Valentini et al.
		US 6,080,194		06-27-2000	Pachence et al.
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP	10-513386	A	12-22-1998		Abstract and corresponding USP 6,080,194
		WO	01/36000	A1	05-25-2001	BIO SYNTECH CANADA, INC.	
		WO	99/24070	A2	05-20-1999	FIDIA ADVANCED BIOPOLYMERS, S.R.L.	
		JP	7-278203	A	10-24-1995	COLLAGEN CORP	Abstract
		WO	03/028781	A1	04-10-2003	JAPAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION, NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR MATERIALS SCIENCE, AND NITTA GELATIN INC.	Abstract
		WO	02/44276	A2	06-06-2002	FOCAL, INC.	

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		TOSHI FUJISATO, TOSHINOBU SAJIKI, QIANG LIU and YOSHITO IKADA; Effect of basic fibroblast growth factor on cartilage regeneration in chondrocyte-seeded collagen sponge scaffold; Biomaterials 1996, Vol. 17, No. 2, pages 155-162	
		J. AIGNER, J. TEGELER, P. HUTZLER, D. CAMPOCCIA, A. PAVESIO, C. HAMMER, E. KASTENBAUER, and A. NAUMANN; Cartilage tissue engineering with novel nonwoven structured biomaterial based on hyaluronic acid benzyl ester; J. Biomed. Mater. Res. 42:2, pages 172-181 (1998)	
		PAOLA BRUN, GIOVANNI ABATANGELO, MARCO RADICE, VALENTINA ZACCHI, DIEGO GUIDOLIN, DANIELA DAGA GORDINI, and ROBERTA CORTIVA; Chondrocyte aggregation and reorganization into three-dimensional scaffolds; J. Biomed. Mater. Res. 46:3, pages 337-346 (1999)	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO <u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</u> <u>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</u> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
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Examiner Name	Mesh, Gennadiy				
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	Q92802

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Paten'ee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US			
		US			

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		LUIS A. SOLCHAGA, JUNG U. YOO, MAGNUS LUNDBERG, JAMES E. DENNIS, BARBARA A. HUIBREGTSE, VICTOR M. GOLDBERG, and ARNOLD I. CAPLAN; Hyaluronan-based Polymers in the Treatment of Osteochondral Defects; Journal of Orthopaedic Research, 18:773-780 (2000)	
		LUIS A. SOLCHAGA, JAMES E. DENNIS, VICTOR M. GOLDBERG, and ARNOLD I. CAPLAN; Hyaluronic Acid-Based Polymers as Cell Carriers for Tissue Engineered Repair of Bone and Cartilage; Journal of Orthopaedic Research, 17:205-213 (1999)	
		YANCHUN LIU, M.D., FUGUO CHEN, M.D., WEI LIU, M.D., PH.D., LEI CUI, M.D., PH.D., QINGXIN SHANG, M.D., PH.D., WANGYAO XIA, M.D., JIAN WANG, M.D., YIMIN CUI, M.D., GUANGHUI YANG, M.D., DELI LIU, M.D., JUANJUAN WU, B.S., RONG XU, B.S., SAMUEL D. BUONOCORE, B.S., and YILIN CAO, M.D., PH.D.; Repairing Large Porcine Full-Thickness Defects of Articular Cartilage Using Autologous Chondrocyte-Engineered Cartilage; Tissue Engineering, Volume 8, Number 4, 729-721 (2002)	
		GAYLEN M. ZENTNER, RAMESH RATHI, CHUNG SHIH, JAMES C. MCREA, MIN-HYO SEO, HUNSEUNG OH, B.G. RHEE, JIRI MESTECKY, ZINA MOLDOVEANU, MICHAEL MORGAN and STEVE WEITMAN; Biodegradable block copolymers for delivery of proteins and water-insoluble drugs; Journal of Controlled Release 72 (2001) 203-215	
		DANIEL COHN, ALEJANDRO SOSNIK, and AVRAHAM LEVY; Improved reverse thermo-responsive polymeric systems; Biomaterials 24 (2003) 3707-3714	
		BYEONGMOON JEONG, SUNG WAN KIM, and YOU HAN BAE; Thermosensitive sol-gel reversible hydrogels; Advanced Drug Delivery Reviews; 54 (2002) 37-51	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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